UNITED
NATIONS

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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/24851
25 November 1992

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 23 NOVEMBER 1992 FROM THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to refer to the situation in Macedonia.

During a visit to Headquarters on 11 November 1992, Mr. Kiro Gligorov, President of Macedonia, conveyed to me a request for the deployment of United Nations observers in Macedonia in view of his concern about the possible impact on it of fighting elsewhere in the former Yugoslavia.

On 19 November 1992 I received a recommendation from Mr. Cyrus Vance and Lord Owen, Co-Chairmen of the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Former Yugoslavia, who had themselves had recent conversations with Mr. Gligorov, in favour of the very early deployment to Skopje of a small group of UNPROFOR military and police observers, with supporting political staff. Their immediate mandate would be to visit Macedonia's border areas with Albania and Serbia and prepare a report on how a larger deployment of United Nations military and police personnel might help to strengthen security and confidence in Macedonia. I would envisage such a deployment, undertaken at the request of the competent authorities of Macedonia, as being a preventive deployment of the kind discussed in paragraphs 28 to 32 of "An Agenda for Peace".

I accordingly propose to instruct the Force Commander of UNPROFOR to dispatch forthwith a group of about a dozen military, police and civilian personnel on an exploratory mission to Macedonia. They would be asked to prepare a report on which I could then base a recommendation to the Security Council for a more substantive deployment of UNPROFOR in Macedonia.

I should be grateful if you would bring this matter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) Boutros BOUTROS-GHALI

92-75089 3655j (E) 251192 261192